

EDITORIALS

Letters to the Editor

Dream From London

To The Editor:

The past two weeks have revealed Drew University to be a miasma of suspicion, accusation, and cynical hate. Whether powerful or powerless, whether willing or unwilling, every member of the academic community who takes the time to examine the situation must find himself sunk in the same bog.

It is frightening when one considers the political moves that were perpetrated under the name of principles and in the guise that we were making a "search for truth". We have allowed the paranoia which has so cruelly splintered the world to filter down from American society. We have watched it funnel into our Board of Trustees and accumulate, drop by drop, onto our campus. We have stood with our feet in slime ladled out by students and faculty alike and watched the erosion of whatever unity our campus could at one time have spoken of.

I had an amazing dream last night which I must make known to your fair community of saints and virgin goddesses. I was in a large tomb, somewhere between the Washington Monument and Pennsylvania Avenue. I cannot imagine how I should have arrived at such a place, but in the wee hours of the night, I noticed a procession approaching the entrance to the tomb. Suddenly I realized it to be a group of Methodist Bishops, a few Drew administrators, and four Drew professors, one a socialist and easily excitable, one a conservative and slightly senile and two others less controversial in nature but descendants from the Middle Ages. In the midst of this mod (what better word to describe them) was the body of Christ with an American flag patriotically draped over His hips. Well, I was so frightened by what I thought was to evolve that I awoke.

I am sorry to report that God is on England's side these days. Come on over Mr. Melten, you are safer here.
Sincerely,
Toby Klinetob
London Semester

J. Board Resignation

To the Acorn:

A memo dated October 26, 1965, has just informed me that David Lindroth has found it necessary to resign from Judicial Board for academic reasons.

It is only with reluctance that I accept this resignation, for Mr. Lindroth has served the Judicial Board with insight and wisdom for over two years. I respect his position as Mr. Lindroth leaves with thanks from the Student Council for a job well done.

Respectfully,
Wayne M. Conner

Re: October 25 Issue

Congratulations on your attempt to convey the truth about Dr. Oxnam's remarks to the student body. I hope further statements will be forthcoming to further clarify the issue. Keep up the good work.

George Woodrow
'67

To The Editor:

For your next editorial on the weather, I find it safe and not too radical to predict that winter is coming.

Sincerely,
John Heston Allocco
London Semester

To The Editor:

Since the resignation of the former editor, the Acorn has undergone a change which disturbs me as well as a number of other students on campus. In the three years that I have been at Drew the Acorn was regarded as a means of representing NEWS and comment. This year's Acorn has abandoned the former in favor of becoming a medium for polemics between a group of students and the administration.

It is obvious, beyond the point of detailed discussion, that there is concern and discontent on the campus. However, there are additional events which require coverage by the "newspaper."

My purpose is to criticize the Oct. 23 issue of the Acorn and to ask: Why were there only criticisms and no resume of the President's speech on Sunday, Oct. 24? Why was there no mention of Fall Weekend and where it will be held? Why was there no information concerning Parent's Weekend?

I believe that the Acorn is making a great mistake which needs immediate attention.

Seth Eisengart
'66

Editor's Note

The President's speech on Sunday, October 24, was "off the record," and as the editors respect "confidential information" we were unable to supply a summary of that meeting. The information on Fall Weekend was previously scheduled for the November 1st copy of the ACORN. We do regret the deletion of an article on Parents Weekend. We had received NO information on the event or reminder from the Drew Eds, and in the rush of setting up last week's paper we overlooked this scheduled event.

Dear Editor,

Must we be in such a hurry? Do we have to protest so fast against the tactics of the right wing that we ourselves adopt those very tactics? Do we honor the memory of G. Bromley Oxnam by assassinating the character of his son? Do we demonstrate our faith in our own ability to elect a student government by seizing our first opportunity to condemn it? It would be easy to agree with the emotion filled screams of hysteria in the last issue of the Acorn. It would be easy to let ourselves be persuaded that there really is a conspiracy between the Christian idealists on the Board of Trustees and the "self-righteous paranoid" in the President's mansion; a conspiracy to turn us against each other, to deprive us of our manhood, or even, God forbid, to convert us all to Christian idealists. That would be easy. It is harder, however, to sit back, look at the evidence, and commit the unforgivable reactionary sin of admitting that the administration might be right. Yet that is exactly what I am asking you to do. I feel that we as students, have made fools of ourselves long enough and that the time has come to stop and look at what we are about. The two editorials in the last issue of the Acorn reached a nearly unparalleled height of irresponsible journalism and stand as an insult to the intel-

ligence and the common sense of each member of the student body, including their authors.

There is no persecution here, no deprivation of academic freedom. The only real self-righteous paranoia is on the part of the cause mongers; those who are so anxious for a witch hunt that they pull together straw after straw in a panicked effort to create one.

It is the time to take a stand; to show that we as students are mature enough to see through the hysteria and the propaganda and courageous enough to follow the example of our student government and support the faculty and the administration when it is clear that we should so—without apologizing to the self appointed radicals.

Like the Acorn editorialist, I too hope that the student body is secure in its ability to evaluate issues—secure enough to know when their responsibility lies in dissent, and when in affirmation.

Sincerely yours,
Roger Werner
Station Manager, WERD

Editor:

We want the Acorn to live again. Not the simple tabloid of last year, but a mature finished journalistic product. The publication of the College of Liberal Arts should reflect the opinions of the entire student body; not only those of a small majority. The campus community is already completely confused by all the issues which have been raised—the facts must now be presented.

The Acorn today is a journalistic miscarriage. Only those agreeing with the editor's personal viewpoints write editorials—facts are no longer important. Why haven't the editors bothered to write "editorials"? The newspaper has become the voice of small minority which uses student supported publication for its own purposes. Why should we pay for a newspaper which simply expresses editorial opinion, not news? It is this newspaper which represents Drew off the campus. Why shouldn't it represent all views of the campus community?

Any newspaper owes its responsibility to the people who support it. It must present the facts, the issues, and the views of these people. We, subscribers of the Acorn, now wish to show our concern by asking that our subscriptions be cancelled.

We wholeheartedly desire a newspaper which is aware, sensitive, fair, and open minded. We do not ask for the elimination of the Acorn, but rather, the elimination of the present editorial policy. We do ask for a responsible policy on the part of the leadership to open its columns to facts, equal presentation of views, and a feeling of what is journalistically correct. It is so much easier to voice opinions, as is now being done, than to search for facts.

The Academic Community must once again settle down to its immediate responsibilities. We can and must search to find the truth, but we can never find it when closed minds lead the search.

Sincerely,
Glenn Redbord
K. Gordon Brownlow

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